(a) to (c) The USSR Government have offered to participate in a number of industrial projects in our public sector. These projects are not specifically of a turnkey character. They involve supply by the Soviet Union of goods and services for meeting reguirements of the projects. The cost of these goods and services will be met by a Rouble credit extended to the Government of India. Such participation also envisages a component of local costs as mutually agreed. The precise manner of participation would depend on the nature of each project. The agreements on economic cooperation signed during Prime Minister's offical visit to the Soviet Union in May, 1985 incorporate these features.

Production of a Video on Mahatma Gandhi by Playboy Magazine

*439. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are aware of a two minute video film produced by 'Playboy' Magazine published in the USA on the life of Mahatma Gandhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the film has denigrated the Father of Nation; and

(d) whether the Government of India have lodged a protest with the US Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to reports available with us, the 'Playboy' TV Channel in USA a subscription channel, in October, 1983, showed a brief parody of a commercial advertisement which depicted Gandhiji in a derogatory manner.

(c) The film is thoroughly vulgar and offensive.

(d) The matter has been taken up with the producers of 'Plaboy' TV channel.

Indo-Afghan Joint Commission Meet

*440. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting of the Indo-Afghan Joint Commission was held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, what was the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) A Protocol was signed between India and Afghanistan after the 7th Meeting of Indo-Afghan Joint Commission. Among the important provisions of the Protocol are:—

(a) Indian assistance for the expansion of the Institute of Child Health, Kabul.

(b) Indian assistance for setting up a 300 beds Obstetrics and Gynaecological hospital in Kabul.

(c) Supply of equipments to Industrial Estate, Kabul.

(d) Supply of Musical intruments to Indian Classical Music Centre in Kabul.

(e) Supply of a range of improved variety of agricultural seeds to Afghanistan.

(f) Deputation of Indian experts to Kabul.

(g) Indian help to Afghanistan in concluding fesibility studies for setting up of a Coal Briquette manufacturing factory.

2. Indian assistance to Afghanistan would be in the nature of grants under the ITEC programme.